

BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKBESPREKINGS

SOCIAL PSYCHIATRY

Social Psychiatry. In the community, in hospitals, and in prisons. By M. Jones, M.D. Pp. xxi + 129. \$5.75. Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1962.

This is a well-written presentation of the author's personal experience. It brings knowledge of therapeutic communities up to date, and relates to the contemporary scene in social psychiatry as it affects the psychiatric hospital, the outside community and prison communities.

Group techniques can draw the patient into some of the normal roles an individual can play in his society; antisocial attitudes can be influenced towards more acceptable norms of behaviour if the social forces within the environment can be developed for this purpose, and the staff personnel adequately trained.

Shorter methods of treatment, including group treatment, have resulted from the realization that individual psychoanalytic treatment is impracticable.

The relationship between psychiatry and penology is examined.

Worth reading.

H.M.

PEPTIC ULCER

Peptic Ulcer. A new approach to its causation, prevention, and arrest, based on human evolution. By T. L. Cleave, M.R.C.P. (Lond.). Pp. vi + 151. R2.50. Bristol: John Wright & Sons. 1962.

The author, after briefly discounting heredity, stress and acid-aggression as convincing aetiological factors in the pathogenesis of peptic ulcer, develops his thesis that such ulceration is due simply to removal of protein in the refining of staple carbohydrates. He considers imperfect buffering of gastric acid by the altered foods of our present civilization the most important cause of peptic ulcer, and supports his argument with most interesting data on protein-stripping in foods, and on racial incidence in many countries in Africa and Asia and also from prisoner-of-war camps in Japan and Russia.

While the basic and attractive concept offered in this book may account for differences in the racial incidence of peptic ulcer, I feel that it can hardly be extended to explain the liability to peptic ulcer of certain people within a community enjoying the same diet. Cleave's provocative thesis does not succeed in relegating the time-honoured factors such as stress, hereditary predisposition and acid hypersecretion to relative unimportance.

I.N.M.

CARDIAC RESUSCITATION

Cardiac Arrest and Resuscitation. By B. B. Milstein, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. Pp. xv + 231. Illustrated. R3.50. London: Lloyd-Luke Ltd. 1963.

Mr. Milstein has made a solid contribution.

Credit is given to the outstanding work of W. B. Kouwenhoven, which has made cardiac resuscitation possible without recourse to thoracotomy. In the hands of the John Hopkins' group, 62% of patients with sudden cardiac arrest, including some with coronary thrombosis, have survived, compared with the 20-30% success recorded before 1961. A real responsibility and duty has been thrust upon every clinician to initiate the resuscitative chain of action in any sudden death of a previously healthy person.

The first chapter is a fascinating historical review of the subject, and one is humbled to learn that by 1874 Moritz Schiff had already clearly shown the way to revive the heart.

The chapter on aetiology lucidly covers a vast field, and its bibliography will be valuable for those with special interest. Milstein's descriptions of resuscitative techniques are concise and should be read by all doctors.

This monograph is strongly recommended. It is, however, not a reference book to be used during the crisis; management must be memorized so that reaction to the emergency is prompt and effective.

P.A.M.

CONGENITAL ABNORMALITIES

Congenital Abnormalities in Infancy. Ed. by A. P. Norman, M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. xv + 389. Illustrated. R6.30. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. 1963.

Congenital malformations have assumed increasing importance in recent times for two main reasons: A rising number of environmental and sometimes iatrogenic causes are becoming apparent, e.g. rubella, X-radiation in early pregnancy, thalidomide, and progestogens, so that the realization is growing that abnormalities which were previously ascribed to genetic factors, may now be preventable. Secondly, as other causes of perinatal mortality are being reduced by the use of antibiotics and better antenatal care and obstetric management, so congenital abnormalities are becoming increasingly important as a cause of foetal loss.

This book gives an excellent and comprehensive account of the malformations that will be encountered at birth or in early infancy. With this book as reference, it will be possible in most instances to answer the questions as to aetiology, prognosis and treatment which the anxious parent so often poses to the general practitioner, paediatrician or obstetrician, when a baby with a congenital abnormality is delivered. It can therefore be strongly recommended to these three 'specialties' in particular.

M.D.

ILLUSTRATED PHYSIOLOGY

Illustrated Physiology. By A. B. McNaught, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., M.I.Biol. and R. Callander, F.F.Ph. Pp. viii + 287. R3.00. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

Livingstone of Edinburgh have now published the physiological equivalent of their well-known *Illustrations of Regional Anatomy*. *Illustrated Physiology* presents the principles of human physiology in a series of clear and well-annotated diagrams. Although designed primarily for technicians, medical auxiliaries, and other students who may lack the conventional scientific background of the medical student, there must be few medical students who would not profit from careful study of the book, and few teachers of physiology who would not find some of the diagrams useful to illustrate their lectures.

As a supplement to any standard textbook of physiology it should clarify many problems and should be of particular value to the student with a good visual memory. Every system is adequately covered and, except for one or two minor inaccuracies, the information is reliable and up-to-date.

The book is well produced and remarkably inexpensive, presumably because the artist is one of the authors. It may be recommended with confidence to any student commencing the study of human physiology.

A.W.S.